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**THREE GRASS VALLEY RESIDENTS SENTENCED
ON POSSESSION OF STOLEN MAIL**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that TABITHA RENEE GILBERT, 20, of Grass Valley, California, was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge William B. Shubb to serve 12 months in federal prison for possessing stolen mail. GILBERT pleaded guilty on December 13, 2006, to a superseding information charging one count of possessing stolen mail. GILBERT was the last of three defendants to be sentenced in the case.

This case was investigated by the Grass Valley Police Department, the Nevada County Sheriff's Office, and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

In February 2006, a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging GILBERT, 20, PAUL WESLEY DEMPSTER, 21, and HALLEY DEVYN GILIO, 20, all of Grass Valley, California, with possession of mail which had been stolen from mailboxes in Grass Valley and Nevada City.

GILIO was sentenced in August 2006 to 10 months prison and DEMPSTER was sentenced in October 2006 to 15 months prison. All three defendants will be on supervised release for three years after their release from prison.

According to the indictment, DEMPSTER's and GILIO's plea agreements, and testimony of GILBERT at her sentencing hearing, all three defendants drove around the Grass Valley and

Nevada City area stealing mail out of rural type mailboxes during the early part of May 2005.

When GILIO and DEMPSTER were arrested in June, 2005, police found several checks and multiple items of stolen mail. When police later searched their mobile home, they found a large trashbag and two cardboard boxes full of stolen mail, including numerous bank statements, business and personal checks, and credit cards.

Around the end of May, all three attempted to cash checks stolen from the mail at an Albertson's supermarket in Nevada County, and GILIO cashed one of the checks at Smiley's Check Cashing in Grass Valley.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Stegman, who prosecuted the case, during GILBERT's plea and sentencing hearings, she admitted to driving with GILIO and DEMPSTER on one or two occasions stealing mail, going through the stolen mail, and attempting to cash a check at Albertson's supermarket.

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